BOARD OF TRADE,
GWYDYR HOUSE,
Whitehall, S. W.,
26th February 1915.

DEAR DRAKE,

I enclose copy of a stock form of reply settled with Sir Arthur Thring which we are using in connection with applications to import goods from Belgium.

You may care to have this by you in connection with any questions that may arise as to the importation of Belgian goods into India.

A license to the Bank to allow the account to be operated upon would only be given in exceptional cases in which satisfactory guarantees could be obtained from the Belgian manufacturer to ensure that money only entered Belgium for the purpose of, say, paying a week's wages to the work people employed.

Yours, etc.,
J. J. WILLIS.

F. C. Drake, Esq.,
India Office.

(Draft—Settled with Sir A. Thring)
C.

SIR,
GENTLEMEN,

With reference to your application for permission to import into this country goods of Belgian origin, I am directed by the Board of Trade to draw your attention to the Proclamation of the 16th February, extending the provisions of the Trading with the Enemy Proclamation of the 9th September to all territory in the effective military occupation of an enemy, from which you will see that you are prohibited from trading with or paying money to or for the benefit of firms situated in the occupied part of Belgium without the express permission of His Majesty's Government.

The Board are, however, prepared to authorise you to import into this country goods of Belgian origin provided that payment is deferred until the enemy occupation has ceased, or that payment is made into an account in a Bank in this country, and an undertaking is obtained from the Bank that the money cannot be withdrawn except under license.

Before delivery can be taken of any particular consignment of goods of Belgian origin it will be necessary for you to furnish to the Customs Authorities an undertaking that the above conditions as regards payment will be duly observed, and also a certificate granted by a British Consular Officer to the effect that he is satisfied from documentary evidence that has been put before him that the goods are in fact of Belgian origin. This authority must also be produced at the same time.

I am to add that in those cases in which certificates of origin are not required for goods imported from Holland they will not be required for goods of Belgian origin.

I am, etc.,

20 BLYTHSWOOD SQUARE,
GLASGOW,
22nd February 1915.

The Secretary,
Board of Trade,
London,

Trading with Belgium.

Referring to the revision to the Proclamation regarding trading with the enemy, as amended by the Proclamation of 16th February, we had placed with Messrs. Ste. Ame. Clouterie and Trefilerie des Flandres, Gentbrugge, several orders for nails, before the issue of the Proclamation, and we shall be obliged by your saying on what conditions we may have a permit enabling us to receive delivery of these orders, which are to be delivered f. o. b. Rotterdam for shipment to Rangoon. We are also in treaty with Messrs. Ste. Ame. Liegeoise d'Estampage, Sclessin near Liege for some lots of Expanded Metal and Lathing for shipment to the same destination, for which a permit will also be necessary.

On 6th February 1915 Messrs. Ste. Ame. Etablissements Brepols Turnhout, invoiced to us 12 cases Playing Cards, and as the goods were forwarded before the issue of the Proclamation, we ask your authority to have same transhipped to Rangoon on arrival in Birkenhead. There are also several other deliveries to make of the same order, and we shall be obliged by permit to ship the same to Rangoon.

We may add that all our payments against above goods will be made to the credit of the respective firms with the Banque Belge pour l'Etranger, 2 Bishopsgate Street, London, E. C., where all our payments have been made on behalf of Belgian manufacturers since the outbreak of the war.

Yours, etc.,
Cowie Bros. & Co.,
(Sd.) W. GOVAN.

Revenue
R. & S. 1077.

4th March 1915.

GENTLEMEN,

In reply to your letter of the 22nd February, I am directed to inform you that the Government of India are prepared to permit importation into India of goods of Belgian origin, previously imported into the United Kingdom under special or general license granted by the Board of Trade, on production to the Indian customs authorities of the original license or of a certified copy.

In the case of such goods not previously imported into the United Kingdom, but transhipped in British ports, or imported direct into India, it would be necessary for you to produce to the Indian Customs authorities the original or a certified copy of the license from the Board of Trade authorising you to procure the goods from Belgium, together with an undertaking that the Board's requirements as regards payment for the goods will be complied with, and also a certificate granted by a British Consular Officer to the effect that he is satisfied from documentary evidence laid before him that the goods are in fact of Belgian origin.

I am,
Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,
(Sd). E. J. TURNER.

Messrs. Cowie Bros. & Co.,
20, Blythswood Square,
Glasgow.

The Board of Trade, in consultation with the Parliamentary Counsel (who is now entrusted with 'Trading with the enemy' questions), have arranged a policy of granting what amounts to a general license to procure Belgian goods on certain conditions and to import them into the United Kingdom.

There is no reason to doubt that the Government of India, who have already expressed their willingness to admit into India Belgian goods, already imported into the United Kingdom under special license, on production of the original license at the Indian port, will be ready to follow the present lead of the Board of Trade. So far as concerns firms established in India they could act on these lines on their own account. But the more usual cases will be those in which firms in the United Kingdom wish to send Belgian goods from Holland to India either *via* the United Kingdom or direct.

If sent *via* the United Kingdom, *i.e.*, if they are first landed here, they would be covered by the Government of India's decision already expressed (see above). If only transhipped in the United Kingdom, or if sent direct to India, the issue of a license, in the case of a British firm, would present difficulties, since neither this Office nor the Government of India would be in a position to know the status of a British firm or its *bona fides*, which knowledge would be necessary before a license should be given. Therefore it seems best to adhere *in the case of British firms*, to the principle already adopted, that import into India should only be permitted if the goods have been procured from Belgium under a license (special or general) granted by the Board of Trade.

The Parliamentary Counsel's Office have undertaken orally to inform this Office of any general licenses so granted, and we can inform India. It will then be sufficient for the firm to produce to the Indian Customs, on import into India, a certified copy of their license granted by the Board, together with the undertaking and the certificate referred to in the penultimate paragraph of the model form of letter sent over by the Board (below).

No. G. 10835—*G. M.* 219-15-7, *dated 2nd February* 1916.

The powers conferred by Governmet Notification No. G. 1083—G. M. 56-10-5, dated the 18th August 1910, on the Rev. George Kannegiesser of the Leipsig Evangelical Lutheran Mission to solemnise marriages and to grant certificates of marriage within the territories of Mysore under the Indian Christian Marriage Laws in force in Mysore, are hereby revoked.